

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the First Action Interview Office Action dated October 24, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 24, 2008. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Statement of Substance of Interview

On October 23, 2008, a telephonic interview was held with the Examiner. The parties discussed the cited reference Authentica, "Take Control of Your Email", VMD 9/2001. Claims 1, 11, 17 and 23-24 were also discussed.

An agreement was reached during the interview. The amendments made herein are believed to be consistent with the agreement reached during the interview. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 8-10 and 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to software per se. In response, Applicants have amended the claims accordingly. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the § 101 rejection of the claims be removed and allowance of the same.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 10 and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. According to the Examiner, claim 10 includes limitations that are not found in the specification such as the limitation that the user can "replicate the mail document without replicating the status." In response, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to paragraphs 0031 and 0034 in the specification where it clearly states that a user can replicate his mail document without replicating his read/unread marks (i.e. status). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the § 112 rejection of claim 10 be removed.

According to the Examiner, claims 23 and 24 recite the limitations that are not found in the specification such as the limitation of "substituting the mail document in the

mail database with a replacement mail document or with updated content” and “the replacement mail document is a substantially blank document.” As discussed during the interview, Applicants have replaced the phrase “substantially blank document” with the term “stub” to clarify aspects of the invention. Further, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to paragraph 0058 of the specification where it clearly states that an option is to leave a document or message in place once the mail is retrieved and that replacement mail document is a stub (see Figure 2). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the § 112 rejection of claims 23 and 24 be removed. Additionally, as discussed during the interview, the limitations of claims 23 and 24 have been added to independent claims 1, 11 and 17.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

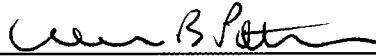
The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 8-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Authentica, “Take Control of Your Email”, VMD 9/2001. In response, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 11 and 17.

As amended, claims 1, 11 and 17 include the limitations of retracting the mail document by (i) substituting the mail document with a stub or with updated content, and (ii) deleting the mail document or removing it from the recipient’s mailbox. As discussed during the interview, Authentica clearly fails to disclose retracting a mail document by substituting the mail document with a stub and then deleting the mail document or removing it from the recipient’s mailbox. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 11 and 17 be removed and allowance of the same. Additionally, the claims that depend from claims 1, 11 and 17 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 11 and 17.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the First Action Interview Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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